

### Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 12, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to **Fig. 5**, a diagrammatic illustration of a head 200 in relation to a data track 204 of one embodiment of the present invention is now described. In this embodiment, the head 200 has a large skew angle 208 with respect to the data track 204. The large skew angle 208 results in a write element 212 and a read element 216 which are also skewed with respect to the data track 204. This large skew angle 208 results in the read element 216 having an effective width 220 with respect to the data track 204 which is narrower than the physical width 224 of the read element 216. Likewise, the write element 212 has an effective width 228 with respect to the data track 204 which is narrower than the physical width 232 of the write element 212. In at least one embodiment, the skew angle is zero degrees when the read element and the write element are located off of the data storage region.